

Having thus described the invention, it is so claimed:

1. A tape dispenser comprising a support for a roll of tape and a dispensing arm extending radially of said support and having a top and a bottom, said bottom including a tape guide having laterally spaced apart opposite sides and a central portion between and spaced below said sides.
2. The tape dispenser of claim 1, wherein said bottom of said arm has inner and outer ends, said tape guide extending from said inner end and terminating at said outer end.
3. The tape dispenser of claim 2, said arm further including a tape applicator forwardly of said outer end of said bottom.
4. The tape dispenser of claim 1, and a tape retaining tab extending inwardly in overlying relation to each of the opposite sides of said tape guide.
5. The tape dispenser of claim 1, wherein said bottom of said arm has inner and outer ends with respect to said support, said tape guide including a plurality of ribs extending in the direction between said inner and outer ends.
6. The tape dispenser of claim 5, wherein said central portion includes a pair of central ribs extending from said inner end and terminating at said outer end.

7. The tape dispenser of claim 6, wherein said opposite sides of said tape guide include ledges extending in said direction.

8. The tape dispenser of claim 6, wherein said plurality of ribs includes a rib laterally outwardly adjacent each of said central ribs.

9. The tape dispenser of claim 8, wherein said opposite sides of said tape guide include ledges extending in said direction.

10. The tape dispenser of claim 9, and a tape retaining tab extending inwardly in overlying relation to each of the opposite sides of said tape guide.

11. The tape dispenser of claim 10, wherein the ribs laterally outwardly adjacent said central ribs extend from said inner end of said bottom and terminate adjacent said tape retaining tabs.

12. The tape dispenser of claim 11, wherein said ledges have inner ends spaced forwardly of said inner end of said bottom and terminate at said outer end of said bottom.

13. The tape dispenser of claim 5, wherein said arm further includes a tape applicator forwardly of said outer end of said bottom.

14. The tape dispenser of claim 13, wherein said applicator includes a serrated cutting edge.

15. The tape dispenser of claim 1, wherein said bottom of said arm has inner and outer ends with respect to said support, and a tape applicator forwardly of said outer end.

16. The tape dispenser of claim 15, wherein said applicator includes a serrated cutting edge.

17. The tape dispenser of claim 1, wherein said bottom of said arm has inner and outer ends with respect to said support and said arm includes side walls between said top and bottom thereof, said side walls having outer and inner sides, said inner sides providing said opposite sides of said tape guide, and said outer sides converging in the direction from said
5 inner end of said tape guide toward said outer end thereof.

18. The tape dispenser of claim 17, wherein said outer and inner sides of said side walls merge adjacent said outer end of said tape guide.

19. The tape dispenser of claim 1, wherein said support is an annular hub and said bottom of said arm is spaced from and extends radially of said hub.

20. The tape dispenser of claim 19, wherein said bottom of said arm has inner and outer ends with respect to said support and said arm includes side walls between said top and bottom thereof, said side walls having outer and inner sides, said inner sides providing said opposite sides of said tape guide, and said outer sides converging in the direction from said

- 5 inner end of said tape guide toward said outer end thereof and merging adjacent said outer end of said tape guide.

21. The tape dispenser of claim 20, and a tape applicator outwardly of said outer end of said tape guide having a serrated cutting edge.

22. The tape dispenser of claim 21, wherein said central portion includes a pair of central ribs extending from said inner end and terminating at said outer end and wherein said opposite sides of said tape guide include ledges extending in said direction.

23. The tape dispenser of claim 22, wherein said tape guide further includes a rib laterally outwardly adjacent each of said central ribs.

24. The tape dispenser of claim 23, and a tape retaining tab extending inwardly in overlying relation to each of the opposite sides of said tape guide.

25. The tape dispenser of claim 24, wherein the ribs laterally outwardly adjacent said central ribs extend from said inner end of said bottom and terminate adjacent said tape retaining tabs and wherein said ledges have inner ends spaced forwardly of said inner end of said bottom and terminate at said outer end of said bottom.

26. A tape dispenser comprising a planar wall, a tape roll support extending transverse to said wall and having an axis and an end spaced from said planar wall, an arcuate wall extending transverse to said planar wall and being radially spaced from said tape roll

support and overlying a portion thereof, said planar wall including a first arm portion
5 extending radially outwardly of said tape roll support, a second arm portion extending from
said arcuate wall transverse to said first arm portion and having an end spaced toward said
end of said tape roll support, a planar third arm portion extending from said end of said
second arm portion parallel to said first arm portion, said first and third arm portions having
opposed inner sides and bottom edges, and a tape guide between said inner sides including
10 guide surfaces on said inner sides and a central portion between and spaced below said guide
surfaces.

27. The tape dispenser of claim 26, and a tape retaining tab extending inwardly of
the bottom edge of each said first and third arm portion.

28. The tape dispenser of claim 26, wherein said tape guide has an end spaced
from said tape roll support, and a tape applicator extending from said end of said tape guide
upwardly and outwardly of said bottom edges of said first and third arm portions.

29. The tape dispenser of claim 28, wherein said tape applicator includes a
serrated cutting edge between said first and third arm portions.

30. The tape dispenser of claim 26, wherein said guide surfaces include ledges
extending along said inner sides of said first and third arm portions.

31. The tape dispenser of claim 30, wherein said tape guide has an end spaced
from said tape roll support, said ledges terminating at said end of said tape guide.

32. The tape dispenser of claim 31, wherein said ledges are inclined downwardly and outwardly relative to said bottom edges of said first and third arm portions and merge with the bottom edges at said end of said tape guide.

33. The tape dispenser of claim 32, wherein said first and third arm portions have outer sides converging with respect to the corresponding inner side in the direction of said end of said tape guide.

34. The tape dispenser of claim 33, wherein the outer and inner sides of each said first and third arm portions merge adjacent said end of said tape guide.

35. The tape dispenser of claim 34, wherein said central portion of said tape guide includes at least one rib depending from said second arm portion parallel to said first and third arm portions.

36. The tape dispenser of claim 35, wherein said tape guide further includes a rib depending from said second arm portion between said central portion and the inner side of each said first and third arm portions and parallel to the corresponding inner side.

37. The tape dispenser of claim 36, wherein said central portion includes a pair of ribs, said tape guide has an inner end, said pair of ribs and the ribs between the central portion and inner sides of said first and third arm portions extending forwardly from said inner end, and said pair of ribs terminating at said end of said tape guide.

38. The tape dispenser of claim 37, and a tape retaining tab extending inwardly of the bottom edge of each said first and third arm portion and rearwardly of said end of said tape guide.

39. The tape dispenser of claim 38, and a tape applicator extending from said end of said bottom edges of said first and third arm portions.

40. The tape dispenser of claim 39, wherein said tape applicator includes a serrated cutting edge between said first and third arm portions.

41. The tape dispenser of claim 40, wherein said tape roll support includes a cylindrical hub.

42. The tape dispenser of claim 1, further including a manually operable brake for restraining rotation of a tape roll mounted on said support.

43. The tape dispenser of claim 42, wherein said support includes a hub for rotatably receiving a tape roll, said brake being on said hub.

44. The tape dispenser of claim 42, wherein said support includes a hub for rotatably receiving a tape roll, said brake including a wall overlying said hub and being displaceable toward said hub.

45. The tape dispenser according to claim 26, further including a manually operable brake for restraining rotation of a tape roll mounted on said support.

46. The tape dispenser according to claim 45, wherein said arcuate wall is interconnected with said planar wall for radial displacement toward and away from said tape roll support to provide said brake.

47. The tape dispenser of claim 45, wherein said tape roll support includes a cylindrical hub, said brake being on said hub.

48. The tape dispenser of claim 47, wherein said brake includes an arm extending circumferentially of said hub and having an end integral with said hub and a free end displaceable radially outwardly and inwardly of said hub.

49. A dispenser for a roll of tape comprising a core and tape wound thereon and having an outermost convolution, said dispenser comprising a support for rotatably supporting a roll of tape, and a manually operable brake on said support for selectively restraining rotation of a roll of tape on said support relative thereto.

50. The dispenser of claim 49, wherein said support is hand held and has an axis and first and second surfaces respectively radially inwardly of the core and radially outwardly of the outermost convolution of tape on a roll of tape on said support, said brake being displaceable by a user holding the dispenser to engage one of said core and said outermost convolution.

51. The dispenser of claim 49, wherein said support includes an axis and a wall radially inwardly adjacent the core of a roll of tape on said support, said brake being on said wall and displaceable radially outwardly thereof to engage the core of a roll of tape on said support.

52. The dispenser of claim 51, wherein said wall has axially opposite ends, said brake including an arm between said ends and extending circumferentially relative to said axis.

53. The dispenser of claim 52, wherein said arm has a first end integral with said wall and a second end spaced circumferentially from said first end, said arm being radially displaceable relative to said first end.

54. The dispenser of claim 53, wherein said arm has radially inner and outer sides, said outer side of said second end being textured for frictional engagement with a core.

55. The dispenser of claim 53, wherein said wall has a radially inner side and said second end of said arm extends radially inwardly of said inner side of said wall.

56. The dispenser of claim 55, wherein said arm has a radially outer side of said second end which is textured for frictional engagement with a core.

57. The dispenser of claim 56, wherein said arm has axially opposite sides, one of said sides of said arm coinciding with one of said axially opposite sides of said wall.

58. The dispenser of claim 49, wherein said support includes an axis and a wall radially outwardly of the outermost convolution of tape on a roll of tape on said support, said wall including said brake and being displaceable radially inwardly to engage the outermost convolution of tape on a roll of tape on said support.

59. The dispenser of claim 58, wherein said wall has circumferentially spaced apart first and second ends, said first end being integral with said support and said arm being radially displaceable relative to said first end.

60. A tape dispenser comprising a support for a roll of tape and a dispensing arm extending radially of said support and having a top and a bottom, said bottom including a tape guide having laterally spaced apart opposite sides and a central portion between said sides, said tape guide bottom being arched in a direction transverse to said opposite sides.